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GENEALOGY.

BRENT FAMILY—ADDENDA.

Compiled by W. B. CHILTON, Washington, D. C.

(CONTINUED.)

FURTHER NOTES RELATING TO THE MARYLAND DESCENDANTS.

Robert Brent of Maryland, son of Robert Brent and Susannah Seymour, by his marriage with Anna Maria Parnham became brother-in-law to John Parnham 2nd, who died previous to July, 1748, as appears by renunciation of administration by his widow Jane, in favor of his brother, Dr. Francis Parnham.

The marriage of Robert Brent and Mary Wharton in 1729 is recorded in Durham Church, Trinity Parish, Charles county, Maryland, and their children were baptized there. Their eldest daughter, Mary, became a Camelite nun, and her brother bequeathed money to the nunnery in case of her death.

The death of Robert Brent, husband of Mary Wharton, is recorded in the family Bible in possession of the family of the late Judge George Brent of Maryland. Robert Brent's will, dated February 3, 1750, and proved April, 1751, Book D. D. 7, p. 73, makes devise of slaves and other property to Mary, his wife; directs that certain slaves in Virginia should be sold to raise £100 sterling for his wife, and leaves the remainder of the estate to his son Robert.

The dates of birth and death of Robert Brent, of Charles county, are taken from the record begun by him in the Bible afterwards in the possession of the family of the late Judge George Brent. He is also mentioned in the records of Durham Church and in Hansen's "Old Kent."

Robert Brent, of "Brentfield," married Dorothy Leigh, and the fact that she was the daughter of William Leigh appears by the deed of a tract of land called St. Bernard's (Brentfield) by William Leigh to Robert Brent; the will of Robert Brent of Brentfield, proved September 16, 1810, whereby he requires Anna Maria, his daughter, to release her rights to said tract, derived from her mother; and by the further fact that in 1805-6 the said Robert purchased from his son William Leigh Brent all his right in said land (Charles county records), and thus the said Robert was enabled to devise St. Bernard's (Brentfield) to his son George Brent.

George Brent, the second son of Robert Brent and Dorothy Leigh, was the father of Judge George Brent.

William Leigh Brent was a lawyer. He went to Louisiana just after his marriage, being commissioned by President Madison as Deputy-Attorney General for the Western District of the Territory of Orleans. He practiced law successfully in the Attakapas, and in 1822 was elected as the representative of Louisiana in Congress, that State being then entitled to only one Congressman. He was re-elected in 1824 and 1826. He remained in Maryland and the District of Columbia practicing law and educating his children from 1826 to 1844, when he returned to Louisiana. He died at St. Martinsville, La., July 3, 1848. His country residence, called "Pamunky," was on the Potomac, just above Indian Head. Pamunky had been, by will dated January, 1771, proved April 1, 1771, of James Cole, son of Edward Cole 3rd, and half brother to Sarah Taney, who married Ignatius Fenwick, Jr., devised to his nephew, James Fenwick, after his mother Sarah's death. James Fenwick, by will proved October 14, 1823, devised Pomonky to William Leigh Brent and wife Maria Fenwick Brent for life and then to Robert James Brent.

Robert James Brent was a lawyer of great industry and ability. The Reports of the Supreme Court of the United States and of the Court of Appeals of Maryland show the large number of cases that he argued before those tribunals. He was the last of the Attorney Generals of Maryland under the old Constitution, when the appointment was for life and when the office carried large powers of appointment of deputies in the several counties and also large emoluments by way of fees. He was appointed Attorney General of Maryland February 12, 1851, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of that year, and being opposed to the large power reposed in the hands of one man in the person of the Attorney General under the then law, and also to the system of fees by which that officer was paid, he voted to abolish the office, and thus with great civic virtue legislated himself out of office. (Debates of the Reform Convention, Vol. 1, p. 532.)

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

BROOKE FAMILY.

(CONCLUDED.)

13. Robert³ Brooke (p. 100) had issue by his second marriage with Lucy Dabney: 179. *Robert*,⁴ of whom later; 180. Lucy; 181. Elizabeth; 182. William; 183. Child.

29. John Taliaferro⁴ and Ann Cary (Selden) Brooke had issue: 184. Laura, died unmarried; 185. *Samuel*,⁵ of whom later; 186. Ann Mason Mercer, born 1804, died 1864; 186. Francis John,⁵ born 1808 (1802 according to one account); brevet 2d lieutenant 7th Infantry, U. S. A., July 1, 1826; 2d lieutenant 6th Infantry July 1, 1826; regimental adjutant April 1, 1833, to August 1, 1836; 1st lieutenant May 6, 1835; killed December